जाएगा जिसके द्वारा लर्नर लाइसेंस प्राप्त करने की पात्रता यह होगी कि उसके पास एक वर्ष की अवधि के लिए हल्के या मध्यम मोटर वाहन ड्राइविंग लाइसेंस हो।

5. राजमार्ग लूट-मार

जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्रालय को इस संबंध में अभ्यावेदन प्राप्त हुए हैं और इस मामले को संबंधित राज्य सरकारों के साथ पहले ही उठाया जा चुका है। जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्रालय ने राजमार्ग लूटमार के जोखिम को समाप्त करने हेतु एक नीति तैयार करने के लिए उत्तर प्रदेश, हरियाणा, राजस्थान, महाराष्ट्र, गुजरात, मध्य प्रदेश और बिहार राज्यों के पुलिस महानिरीक्षकों की 25.11.1992 को एक बैठक बुलाई है। अखिल भारतीय मोटर ट्रांसपोर्ट कांग्रेस को भी उपर्युक्त बैठक में आमंत्रित किया जाएगा।

6. परमिट अपेक्षाएं

राष्ट्रीय परमिट के अंतर्गत चल रहे वाहनों की क्या 9 वर्ष की आयु सीमा को बढ़ाया जाना चाहिए और यदि हां तो कि सीमा तक, इस बारे में रिपोर्ट देने के लिए एक तकनीकी समिति का गठन किया गया है।

7. वाहक अधिनियम को अद्यतन बनाना

इसकी जांच की जाएगी।

8. पुलों पर मार्ग कर

इस बात पर सहमति थी कि केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा निर्मित ऐसे पुलों की सूची, जिस पर मार्गकर लिया जा रहा है, और संग्रह की वर्तमान स्थिति से अखिल भारतीय मोटर ट्रांसपोर्ट कांग्रेस को अवगत कराया जाएगा।

Amendment to the Merchant Shipping Act

439. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to amend the Merchant Shipping Act 1941 so as to enable the Shipping Companies to borrow from International Money Market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that SCICI a nodal Agency to provide credit *etc. to* the Shipping Industry has failed in helping the Shipping Industry;

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether any measures are under Government's consideration to improve the functioning of the SCICI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) There is no provision in the Merchant Shipping Act which prevents Indian Shipping Companies to borrow from International money market. However, relevant Sections of Merchant Shipping Act are proposed to be amended to enable foreign lenders to execute mortgaged assets with relative ease.

(c) No, Sir. SCICI has always attempted to fulfil its role as a Nodal Agency for the Shipping Industry to provide cedit etc.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) SCICI, being a non-government company incorporated under the Companies Act, is governed by policies as decided by its Board of Directors and by its shareholders from time to time.

Road Accidents in Delhi

440. SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to write-up in Times of India of the 31st August, 1992 regarding ever increasing number of road accidents in Delhi;

(b) whether it is a fact that about 60 per cent of pedestrians are victims of these accidents;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to take any steps to ensure that the DTC buses are stopped near the foot-paths and not in the middle of the roads while taking in and disembarking the commuters;

(d) whether Government are also taking any sustained action to ensure that footpaths are available for use of the pedestrians exclusively and all encroachments are removed therefrom; and

(e) the number of sub-ways planned for this year in the interest of road safety?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. However, DTC have set up special squads of inspectors with driving background to endorce road discipline in DTC busus. Traffic Supervisory staff of DTC are also depeloyed on important bus stands during peak hours to ensure proper parking of buses and safe boarding/alighting of passengers.

The Officers of the Road Safety Cell of Delhi Traffic Police also hold regular classes for DTC drivers.

(d) Regular anti-encroachment drives to keep the foot-paths free for pedestrians are carried out with the help of local police and civic authorities.

(e) 12 sub-ways are planned to be constructed this year in the interest of road safety.

Road accidents and resultant deaths on National Highways

441. SHRI S.S. SURJEWALA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of deaths and serious injuries occur as a result of the accidents in the National Highway No. 1 between Ambala and Delhi, If so, the number thereof during the last year;

(b) whether Government propose to construct express ways and multy-lanes Highways in the country in view of the size, traffic and growing population in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(c) the remedial steps being taken by Government to minimise the road accidents and resultant deaths;

(d) whether Government propose to construct/build express ways between Chandigarh and Delhi, Chandigarh and Jaipur, Phazilka and Delhi, Hissar, Sirsa, Rohtak and Delhi; and

(e) if so, the time frame fixed therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Stretch-wise information of accidents on National Highways is not maintained.

(b) The development of National Highways is a continuous process and works are undertaken depending upon the traffic intensity, inter-se priority and availability of funds. At present the Ahmedabad-Vadodra Express way having a length of 93 kms. is under execution. Feasibility study for an express way from Bombay to Vadodra has been undertaken with the assistance of the Asian Development Bank.

For capacity augmentation and with a view to avoid congestion, the 8th Five Year Plan has provision for

(i) Widening from 2 lanes to 4 lanes in a length of 900 kms. at an estimated cost of Rs. 1050 crores.

(ii) Widening of 2 lanes in a length of 1350 kms. at an estimated cost of Rs. 360 crores.

(c) All possible steps are being taken by the Government to develop road safety culture in the country and for improvement of road geometry, traffic signs, pavement markings on the National Highway network. Details of steps taken/ being taken by the Government are given in the attached statement (see below)

(d) and (e) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

Statement

The Steps taken/being taken include—

1. The M.V. Act, 1988 and the Rules framed thereunder provide for stricter requirements in respect of issuance of driving licences, and stringent penalties for offences.
2. Formal training in a driving school is made a pre-requisite for issuance of licence to drive transport vehicles.
3. Maximum safe laden weights have been prescribed for trucks including light commercial vehicles.
4. Maximum speed limits have been prescribed for all vehicles except light motor vehicles.
5. Uniform intervals for checking the fitness of vehicles have been prescribed throughout the country.